

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT EXAMINING OPERATION

Applicant(s): Peng Zhang et al.

Serial No.: 10/689,402

Group Art Unit: 1746

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Examiner: B. S. Carrillo

Atty. Docket No.: 06412 USA

Confirmation No.: 2570

For: PROCESS SOLUTIONS CONTAINING SURFACTANTS USED AS POST-CHEMICAL MECHANICAL PLANARIZATION TREATMENT

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Peng Zhang, Ph.D., a citizen of the Republic of China hereby declare and state:

1. I have a Bachelor's of Science in Chemical from Peking University of China, a Masters in Science in Polymer Chemistry from Peking University of China, and a Doctorate in Organic Chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

2. I am currently employed by Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. (APCI), the assignee of the present application. I have worked as a Senior Principle Research Chemist with APCI for approximately seven years. In my present assignment, I am the technology leader in photoresist ancillary and immersion lithograph programs and am responsible for developing new photoresist developers and surface conditioner products. I have also provided technical consultation on various research programs such as supercritical carbon dioxide process solutions, post chemical mechanical planarization (CMP) cleaning, post-etch and/or ash cleaning, and photoresist stripping.

3. I am an inventor on the present application, 10/689,402, along with Brenda Faye Ross.

4. I am also an inventor, along with Danielle Megan King, Eugene Joseph Karwacki, Jr. and Leslie Cox Barber of the pending U. S. Application Serial No.10/218,087 or U. S. Published Application 2004/0029395 ("the Zhang 395 publication") which was filed on August 12, 2002 and published on February 12, 2004.

5. The unclaimed subject matter of the Zhang 395 publication was derived from the inventors of the present application. Thus, the subject matter of the Zhang 395 publication constitutes the Applicant's work and is not "by another". As such, the Zhang 395 publication is not §102(e) prior art to the present application.

6. I am also an inventor, along with Danielle Megan King Curzi, Eugene Joseph Karwacki, Jr., and Leslie Cox Barber of the pending U. S. Application Serial No.10/634,608 or U. S. Published Application 2004/0053172 ("the Zhang 172 publication") which was filed on August 4, 2003 and published on March 18, 2004.

7. The unclaimed subject matter of the Zhang 172 publication was derived from the inventors of the present application. Thus, the subject matter of the Zhang 172 publication constitutes the Applicant's work and is not "by another". As such, the Zhang 172 publication is not §102(e) prior art to the present application.

8. I am also an inventor, along with Danielle Megan King Curzi, Eugene Joseph Karwacki, Jr., and Leslie Cox Barber of the pending U. S. Application Serial No.10/804,513 or U. S. Published Application 2004/0204328 ("the Zhang 328 publication") which was filed on March 19, 2004 and published on October 14, 2004.

9. The unclaimed subject matter of the Zhang 328 publication was derived from the inventors of the present application. Thus, the subject matter of the Zhang 328 publication constitutes the Applicant's work and is not "by another". As such, the Zhang 328 publication is not §102(e) prior art to the present application.

10. I am also an inventor, along with Danielle Megan King Curzi, Eugene Joseph Karwacki, Jr., and Leslie Cox Barber of the pending U. S. Application Serial No.10/616,662 or


U. S. Published Application 2004/0053800 ("the Zhang 800 publication") which was filed on July 10, 2003 and published on March 18, 2004.

11. The unclaimed subject matter of the Zhang 800 publication was derived from the inventors of the present application. Thus, the subject matter of the Zhang 800 publication constitutes the Applicant's work and is not "by another". As such, the Zhang 800 publication is not §102(e) prior art to the present application.

12. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and/or imprisonment under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing therefrom.

Date:

Dec. 8, 2005


Peng Zhang, Ph.D.